



ANNUAL REPORT

. . . . OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

. . . . FOR THE

Rural District of Warrington

For 1920

. . . . ALSO

THE ANNUAL REPORT

. . . . OF THE

Sanitary Inspector.



*To the Chairman and Members of the Warrington
Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1920. I have endeavoured to conform to the Memorandum, as to its contents and arrangement, issued by the Ministry of Health.

The estimate of the population of the District has been furnished by the Registrar-General, viz, 11 603.

No action has yet been taken with regard to the closure of any houses because accommodation cannot be found either in the District or adjoining Districts for the persons affected, and there is still great difficulty in getting ordinary defects in dwellings remedied owing to the shortage of labour in some of the Townships, and also, perhaps more especially, to the very heavy expense that owners of property would incur.

The extension of the Borough of Widnes in November absorbed 425 acres (chiefly agricultural) of the Parish of Cuerdley. The population of this portion of Cuerdley was about 40 and the number of houses 7, i.e., 3 Cottages and 4 Farms. It also contained 2 Works and portions of three Railways. The part of Widnes bordering on Cuerdley had not shown any sign of growth for the last 20 years or more.

The Report of your Inspector, Mr. Kerfoot, whose valuable assistance I wish to acknowledge, is included in the Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. A. MURRAY,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Population, Census 1911. 13747. 1920 Birth Rate & } 11603. Acreage 19114.
Death Rate }

The district is situated on the Northern side of the River Mersey is mostly flat with a subsoil of clay in the Western portion and some moss land in the Eastern. The district is bounded in the South by the River Mersey and Warrington County Borough—in the West by Widnes Borough, Whiston R.D.C. and St. Helens—in the North by Newton U.D.C. and Leigh R.D.C. and in the East by Leigh R.D.C. and Irlam U.D.C. From East to West it is about 12 miles across and from South to North about 5 miles.

The Industries in the district are Farming, Coal Mining, Chemical, Lead manufacture, Wire drawing, Agriculture and others such as cycle, motor, tool making, &c.

It has not been found that any particular occupation has had any definite influence on the health of the inhabitants employed therein.

Total number of deaths registered in the district	...	...	...	128
Deduct deaths in the Lord Derby War Hospital	...	...	6	
„ „ Sankey Sanatorium	...	...	7	
„ of other non-residents	...	...	7	
C.A.	...	...	1	
			<u>21</u>	
Nett deaths of residents registered in the district	...	...	...	107
Add transferable deaths (i.e. residents dying outside the district)			...	35
Total deaths belonging to the district	...	...	...	<u>142</u>

The 21 deaths of non-residents belonging to the Registration district of

	Males.	Females.
1. Winwick	9	
2. Sankey	8	4
	<u>17</u>	<u>4</u>

The 35 deaths of residents dying outside the district belonged to the Registration district of

	Males.	Females.
1. Winwick	12	8
2. Sankey	14	1
	<u>26</u>	<u>9</u>

Total Births

	Males.	Females.
	150	138
Legitimate	145	134
Illegitimate	5	4
Total Births	288	
Excess of Births over Deaths	...	...

146

Notification of Births Acts.

During the year notifications have been received as follows:—Sankey, 148. Winwick, 122. Total, 270. 12 notifications were of still births.

4 of the notifications in the Winwick district and 1 in the Sankey were not sent in until enquiries were made after receipt of Registrar's returns.

Copies have been regularly sent each week to the County Medical Officer of Health.

**List of Causes of Death issued by the Registrar-General
(Civilians only).**

ALL CAUSES.						MALES.	FEMALES.
1.	Enteric Fever...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2.	Small-pox	...	...	...	...	—	—
3.	Measles	...	...	...	...	1	—
4.	Scarlet Fever...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping-cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Diphtheria and Croup	..	..	...	...	—	—
7.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	1
8.	Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	5	3
10.	Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	1	—
11.	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	1	1
12.	Cancer, Malignant disease...	...	...	...	...	9	8
13.	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
14.	Meningitis	...	...	...	...	1	1
15.	Organic Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	5	5
16.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	5	5
17.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	7	9
18.	Other Respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—
19.	Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	—	2
20.	Appendicitis and Typhlytis	...	..	...	...	1	—
21.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	..	—	—
21a.	Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	—	—
22.	Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	...	...	2	1
23.	Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
24.	Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	1
25.	Congenital Debility, &c.	...	...	...	...	4	6
26.	Violence, apart from Suicide	...	...	...	...	8	2
27.	Suicide ..	...	...	...	...	2	—
28.	Other defined diseases	...	..	...	...	26	18
29.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	—	—
TOTAL						79	63
Deaths of Infants under one year						12	11
Illegitimate						1	—

Birth and Death Rates of the District per 1,000 of Population.

				Birth-rate.		Death-rate.		Epidemic Death-rate.		Phthisis Death-rate.		Rate of Deaths under 1 year to 1,000 Births.
1920	24·8	...	12·2	...	0·25	...	0·68	...	79
1919	19·0	...	13·2	...	Nil.	...	0·98	...	85

Mean of 10 years,

1910—1918	...	20·8	...	12·9	...	1·09	...	1·08	...	96
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Increase or Decrease
in 1920 on

Previous year	...	+5·8	...	—10	...	+0·25	...	—0·30	...	—6
Ten years' average		+4·0	..	—0·7	.	—0·84	...	—0·40	...	—17

The Death-rate from

Bronchitis	...	...	...	10	will equal	·86	per 1,000 of population.
Pneumonia	...	...	...	16	„	„	1·3 „ „ „ „
Violence	...	...	...	10	„	„	·86 „ „ „ „
Inquest cases	...	...	...	12	„	„	1·07 „ „ „ „
Other Tuberculous diseases				3	„	„	·25 „ „ „ „
Cancer, malignant disease	...			17	„	„	1·4 „ „ „ „
Diarrhoea under 2 years	...			2	„	„	·17 „ „ „ „
Influenza	..	...	...	2	„	„	·17 „ „ „ „

Birth and Death Rates for the last 10 years.

	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
DEATH...	10·7	11·4	9·3	8·6	14·3	10·9	12·8	16·4	13·2	12·2
BIRTH...	17·6	19·7	18·8	19·7	19·3	22·6	17·8	17·8	19·0	24·8

Epidemic Death-rate for the last 10 years.

1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
1·2	1·1	1·8	·8	1·2	·47	·74	1·78	Nil.	0·25

Deaths Registered in the Registration Districts of

	WINWICK.				SANKEY.				TOTAL.			
		Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.			Males.	Females.		
Influenza	—	...	1	...	1	...	—	...	1	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	3	...	2	...	2	...	1	...	5	...	3
Other Tuberculous diseases	...	1	...	1	...	0	...	0	...	1	...	1
Cancer, Malignant disease	...	6	...	4	...	3	...	4	...	9	...	8
Rheumatic Fever	—	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—
Meningitis	...	—	...	—	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1
Organic Heart Disease	...	3	...	4	...	2	...	1	...	5	...	5
Bronchitis	...	2	...	3	...	3	...	2	...	5	...	5
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	3	...	2	...	4	...	7	...	7	...	9
Other Respiratory diseases	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	1
Cirrhosis of Liver...	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	1
Nephritis & Bright's Disease	...	—	...	1	...	2	...	—	...	2	...	1
Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever	—	...	1	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	1
Congenital Debility, &c.	...	1	...	2	...	3	...	4	...	4	...	6
Violence, apart from Suicide	...	4	...	—	...	4	...	2	...	8	...	2
Suicide	...	1	...	—	...	1	...	—	...	2	...	—
Other defined cause	...	10	...	11	...	16	...	7	...	26	...	18
Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	—
Measles	...	1	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	1	...	—
Tubercular Meningitis	...	1	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	1	...	—
Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	—	...	—	...	—	...	2	...	—	...	2
Appendicitis	...	—	...	—	...	1	...	—	...	1	...	—

Organic Heart Disease...	16					1	1	3	5
Bronchitis	10	2						0	8
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	16	2	1	0	3	0	6	4	0
Other diseases of Respiratory organs ..	0								
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	2	2							
Appendicitis & Typhlitis	1							1	
Cirrhosis of Liver ..	0								0
Alcoholism									
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	3		0					1	2
Puerperal Fever									
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ..	1						1		
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature birth	10	10							
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	10			0	2	2	2	3	1
Suicides	2						1	1	
Other Defined Diseases	44	5	1	0	1	2	3	6	26
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	0	0							
All causes	142	22	3	0	8	8	20	33	48
									172

SUB-ENTRIES, included in above figures.—14 (a). Cerebro-spinal Meningitis, Nil. 28 (a). Poliomyelitis, Nil.

Deaths outside the District of persons belonging to SANKEY.

M.	Age	61	Rylands Street, Warrington.	F.	Age	56	Warrington Infirmary.
F.	,,	15	Eccleston Hall Sanatorium.	M.	,,	11	,,
F.	,,	54	,,	M.	,,	30 min.	,,
M.	,,	42	Rainhill Asylum Annexe.	M.	,,	3 hrs.	,,
F.	,,	54	County Asylum, Whittingham	F.	,,	5 yrs.	,,
M.	,,	16	Royal Infirmary, Manchester	F.	,,	40	99 Guardian St., W'gton
F.	,,	48	Nelson House, Manchester.	F.	,,	70	,,
M.	,,	10	Lunatic Asylum, Lancaster.	M.	,,	19	,,
M.	,,	15	West Railway Sidings, Trafford Park.	M.	,,	78	,,
M.	,,	31	Partington Steel Works.	M.	,,	26	Ancoats Hospital.

Deaths outside the District of persons belonging to WINWICK.

M.	Age	28	St. Helens Canal, Earlest'wn	M.	Age	52	99 Guardian St., Warringt'n
M.	,,	24	Rainhill Asylum Annexe.	M.	,,	84	,,
M.	,,	21	No. 2 Pit, Bold Colliery.	M.	,,	71	,,
M.	,,	56		M.	,,	9 mos.	,,
M.	,,	46	St. Helens Hospital.	M.	,,	9 mos.	,,
M.	,,	45	Infirmary, Warrington.	M.	,,	40	,,
M.	,,	47	Elswick Sanatorium.	F.	,,	81	,,
M.	,,	35	99 Guardian St., Warrington				

DEATHS IN INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.

SANKEY SANATORIUM.	4	MALES.	3	FEMALES.
ages from	15—25	1	15—25	1
	25—45	2	25—45	2
	45—65	1		
COTTAGE HOMES.				

1 Male. Age 14 months. Cause of death, Measles.

LORD DERBY WAR HOSPITAL.

Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	1	AGES OF MORTALITY.
Mental Disease	...	...	...	4	15—25 ... 1
Other Diseases	...	...	...	1	25—45 ... 5
				6	6

COUNTY ASYLUM, WINWICK.

A Male. Age 48.

DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR. 23.

					SANKEY		WINWICK.	
					M.	F.	M.	F.
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	1	4	3	2
Bronchial Pneumonia	..	...	...	...	2	2		
Acute gastritis...	..	...	...	...			1	
Marasmus	...	...	...	...	2		1	
Convulsions	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...			1	
Inf. Enteritis	...	...	...	...		2		
Acute Meningitis	..	...	...	...		1		
Respiratory Failure	...	...	..	...			1	
One death, male, Uncertified.								
					—	—	—	—
Ages of Mortality :					5	9	7	2

Under one Week.	Weeks.	Weeks.	Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	Months.	Months.	Months.	Months.	Total under 1 year.
	1—2	2—3	3—4		1—3	3—6	6—9	9—12	23
12	—	—	—	12	3	1	1	6	

INQUESTS held in the District on Residents.

SANKEY.	WINWICK.
M., age 42.—Cut throat. Suicide.	M., age 52.—Found drowned. Suicide.
F., „ 7.—Killed by motor-lorry. Misadventure.	
F., „ 91.—Burns from bed-clothes catching fire.	

INQUESTS held outside the District on Residents.

SANKEY.	WINWICK.
M., age 28.—Found drowned.	M., age 61.—Run over by own cart. Misadventure.
M., „ 21.—Killed by fall of roof. Mis- adventure.	M., „ 15.—Fracture of spine. Acci- dent.
M., „ 56.—Killed by fall of roof. Mis- adventure.	M., „ 31.—Fracture of skull. Acci- dent.
M., „ 46.—Abscess of right brain after injury.	M., „ 11.—Tetanus, right leg crushed. Misadventure.

INQUESTS held in the District on Non-Residents.

SANKEY.	WINWICK.
M., age 37.—Found drowned. Suicide.	M., age 36.—Found drowned. Suicide.
M., „ 66.—Found drowned.	M., „ 41.—Drowned in a pond of water.
M., „ 50.—Found drowned.	
F., „ 24.—Found drowned. Suicide.	
M., „ 60.—Killed by train.	

Table XV.—Birth-rate, Death-rate and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1920.

(Provisional figures). Populations estimated to the middle of 1920 have been used for the purpose of this Table.

	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Popula- tion.	Annual Death-rate per 1,000. Civilian population.									Rate per 1,000 Births.		Percentage of Total Deaths.*			
		All causes.	Enteric Fever	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).	Total Deaths under One year.	Deaths in Public Institutions.	Certified cases.	Inquest cases	Uncertified cases of Deaths.
England and Wales	25'4	12'4	0'01	0'00	0'19	0'04	0'11	0'15	0'28	0'48	8'3	80	24'3	92'2	6'6	1'2
96 Great Towns, including London... .. (Census populations exceeding 50,000)	26'2	12'5	0'01	0'00	0'22	0'04	0'14	0'16	0'31	0'43	10'4	85	31'3	92'2	7'1	0'7
149 Smaller Towns (Census populations, 20,000—50,000)	24'9	11'3	0'02	0'00	0'19	0'03	0'10	0'14	0'27	0'38	7'8	80	16'5	93'2	5'3	1'5
London	26'5	12'4	0'01	0'00	0'22	0'05	0'17	0'22	0'30	0'47	9'5	75	46'8	91'2	8'6	0'2

* Non-Civilians are included in these figures for England and Wales, but not for London and the groups of towns.

The Clerk to the Warrington Union informs me that the amount of out-door relief granted in this area during 1920 amounted to £923-18-10.

PARTICULARS.	Money.			Kind.	Total.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Poulton	39	17	0	2 10 0	42	7	0
Rixton	59	14	0	Nil.	59	14	0
Southworth	Nil.			7 14 6	7	14	6
Woolston	33	10	6	Nil.	33	10	6
Winwick	Nil.			1 1 6	1	1	6
Penketh	437	10	6	6 17 1	444	7	7
Gt. Sankey	136	3	6	1 15 6	137	18	0
Burtonwood... ..	161	14	0	35 11 9	197	5	9

Hospital and other forms of gratuitous relief are freely utilised both for accidents and other medical and surgical cases.

The Institutions utilised are the Infirmary and Whitecross Hospital, Warrington, and the St. Helens Accident Hospital.

Some cases are treated in hospitals in Manchester and Liverpool.

Definite details as to the number of cases are not available.

WATER.

In the greater portion of the district the water supply is sufficient and the quality good.

The Corporation of Warrington through the Water Company which they took over has statutory powers to supply the greater portion of the district and in seven Townships there is a constant supply from this source. The number of houses thus supplied varies according to the population—in the more populated portions the majority of the houses are supplied. The township of Cuerdley is supplied by the Liverpool Corporation (by arrangement with the Widnes Corporation) from one central tap and a few wells.

The rest of the district obtains its supply from wells. Frequent samples are taken from these wells, chemical examinations made, and if any contamination is found measures are taken to remedy the cause. In the townships where it is possible to replace the well supply with that of the constant supply this is always done.

The well waters of the district from the analyst's report show a very great degree of hardness and the contamination has been that of sewage or failure to clean out the well for a number of years and prevent the introduction of surface water.

Extentions of the water supply in the townships of Sankey and Rixton have been under consideration and estimates for the work obtained, but at the present time the enormous increase in the cost of carrying out the work is prohibitive.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The portion of the River Mersey flowing through the district is tidal. The sources of pollution of streams in the district is from houses and industries.

The industries which cause most pollution are the tanneries and a Brewery.

At the tanneries schemes have been arranged to prevent the effluents from carrying solid matter to the streams or river. The effluents are pumped up into large setting beds and the water finds its way through a bed of cinders to the drains or streams. One tannery is so situated that the bulk of the water from the lime settling beds is carried in quite a different direction (to the River Mersey) from that from the tanyard and so there is considerably less precipitation than if the two effluents were carried away together.

The effluents from the Burtonwood Brewery has been kept under observation during the year and many improvements have been made by the proprietors who are most anxious to do anything that will remove the smell in dry weather from the brook. The effluent leaves the settling tanks and filter beds apparently quite clean and free from sediment but unfortunately some distance down the brook the smell is given off

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

One township (Penketh) has a sewerage scheme falling into the tidal portion of the River Mersey. So far this scheme has been satisfactory,

In another township Burtonwood the main portion has a scheme of sewerage which is carried through precipitation tanks before being discharged into a stream. This has up to the present been sufficient for the portion of the district.

In other parts of the area most of the drainage and sewage eventually finds its way into streams. In these cases an attempt is made to minimise pollution by use of septic tanks either from single houses or from a number collected into one common sewer. These drains and sewers are whenever practicable so arranged that they will be available in the future when a scheme of sewerage is attempted.

All ditches, etc., into which any sewage or other pollution finds its way are from time to time kept clean and free by the Council's men.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

A statement of the number, etc., will be found on page 20.

SCAVENGING.

In three townships, Sankey, Penketh and Winwick-with-Hulme the scavenging is done by the Council who employ contractors. In these townships the efficiency is good but in some of the other townships where owners and occupiers make their own arrangements the efficiency is only fair and it will probably, in the near future, be necessary for the Council to arrange for the work to be done in the same way as the two first mentioned townships.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Your Inspector almost daily visits different parts of your district and whenever necessary I accompany him—particulars of inspections, &c., will be found in his report on page 22.

Each elementary school in your district has been visited at least once during the year by myself with your inspector and all defects brought to the notice of the School Authorities.

The water supply to the majority of schools is good.

The Sankey Council School has, along with other improvements, had the whole of the Sanitary arrangements converted from Pail to W.C's., the sewage being passed through a septic tank before passing into a stream. At Woolston R.C. School two new modern heating stoves have been put in. The Sanitary arrangements at Croft R.C. School have been rebuilt further away from the school buildings.

Elementary schools have been closed during the year as follows :

In Jan. Croft Council and Burtonwood Council, epidemic of Measles.
 ,, Feb. Croft Council, Measles ; Great Sankey Infant Department, Whooping Cough.
 ,, Mar. Croft R.C. School, Measles.
 ,, May. Padgate Infants, Measles.
 ,, June. Orford and Burtonwood Council School, Infants, Measles.

The milk supply of the district is fairly good and the adequacy of the arrangements for the supply and distribution is very good as it is delivered direct from the farmer.

It has not been found necessary to take any action as to Tuberculous milk.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order 1918, has been in the hands of the County.

The premises where goods are manufactured, prepared, stored or exposed for sale are regularly inspected, but it has not been necessary to take any action to deal with insanitary conditions. The bakehouses and condition of the slaughter houses is good.

There is no public abattoir in the district and the three slaughter houses are visited by the Inspector practically each week at the time of slaughtering.

A statement concerning tuberculous carcasses will be found in the Inspector's Report.

The prevalence of notifiable infectious diseases has not during the past year assumed any serious proportion except that of measles. In several portions of the district epidemics of measles have occurred and schools have been closed.

Diphtheria antitoxin is provided for the use of medical practitioners and stocks are kept for prompt use in different parts of the area.

No cases of encephalitis lethargica—Dysentery or Trench Fever—have been notified and all the cases of Malaria notified have been investigated and have been found to have been contracted abroad while the person was serving in the Army.

Bacteriological aids to diagnosis are utilised whenever a request is received from any medical practitioner in attendance in a case and in cases where there is any cause to consider a case may be a carrier or contact.

Five examinations of sputum were positive for Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Two swabs examined for Diphtheria. One positive and one negative.

Disinfection and cleansing of houses or rooms is carried out in all cases where Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Tuberculosis have occurred and occasionally in other infectious diseases cases. Bedding, &c., is sent to the respective fever hospitals for disinfection.

The first case of Scarlet Fever or Diphtheria occurring in a house is usually removed to hospital, especially if there is no proper isolation available.

Intimations of notifiable and non-notifiable diseases received from the school authorities are utilised, more especially with regard to school closure with a view to checking the spread of infection. The district was well circularised with notices cautioning and giving preventative information with regard to Influenza. The deaths from Influenza occurred as follows :—

						Males.	Females.
Winwick	...	...	...	...	...		1
Sankey	...	...	...	...	...	1	

Total 2 = a rate per 1000 of 17.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS & OTHER TUBERCULOUS DISEASES.

The deaths from these diseases occurred as follows :—

				Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Other Tuberculous diseases.	
				Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Winwick	...	...	...	3	2	2	1
Sankey	...	...	...	2	1	none	
				5	3	2	1

Total number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis, 11. Two deaths occurred outside the district in the Asylum, St. Helens, 2 Eccleston Hall, 1 Elswick Sanatorium, 1 Ancoats Hospital.

No notification to be traced in 5 cases.

Of the other deaths

1	occurred	4 months	after notification.
1	„	6 „	„ „
2	„	1 year	„ „
1	„	2 years	„ „

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the end of 1920 was, so far as as could be ascertained, as follows ;—

Pulmonary	25	} Total 61.
Non-Pulmonary	36	

SMALL-POX.

It has not been necessary for any action to be taken under the Public Health (Small-pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917. No case has occurred in the district or as far as is known in the vicinity.

There has been one case of anthrax.

There are at present no facilities available for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings. No case has, so far as we know, occurred in the district.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

There was one case notified and no permanent injury was caused to either eye.

Table giving the Notifications of Infectious Diseases, &c., for each month and Number of Cases in each Registration District.

	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric.	Ophthalmia nematorum.	Influenza and Pneumonia.	Malaria.	TUBERCULOSIS.		Puerperal Fever.
								Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	
January ...	2	2				5			1	
February ...	1		5			3				
March...			1			5	1	1		
April ...	1					5		1	1	
May ...	1	1	2	1		6			2	
June ...	1					2		2	3	
July ...						1	1	2		
August ...			2		1	1		1		1
September ...	1		2						1	
October ...	1		1					2		
November ...	1		1			2		2		
December ...	1		4			3		1		
	10	3	18	1	1	33	2	12	8	1
WINWICK ...	5	1	11			6		5	6	
SANKEY ...	5	2	7	1	1	27	2	7	2	
	10	3	18	1	1	33	2	12	8	

Ages of Cases of Notified Infectious Diseases.

WINWICK.	under 1 year.										1—5.		5—15.		15—25.		25—45.		45—65.		65 and upwards.	
Scarlet Fever...	I	...	2	...	5	...	2	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Diphtheria	I	...	3	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Erysipelas	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Tuberculosis	2	...	4	...	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
SANKEY.																						
Puerperal	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I
Scarlet Fever...	4	...	2	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Diphtheria	4	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Erysipelas	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Malaria	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tuberculosis...	2	...	I	...	4	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Enteric	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1920.

RURAL DISTRICT OF WARRINGTON.

Medical Officer of Health - - T. A. MURRAY.

Inspector of Nuisances - - - FRANK W. KERFOOT.

What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation? For Small-pox, none. For other Infectious Diseases: Warrington and Newton-le-Willows

Is it joint or otherwise? Otherwise.

No. of Beds available for your district? For Small-pox, none. For other Infectious Diseases. As required.

Disinfection. No. of Houses disinfected? 33. Method (state disinfectant used)? Formaldehyde. Are Houses disinfected after (a) Phthisis? Yes. (b) Measles? Sometimes. Apparatus used for Clothing, Bedding, &c. (steam or otherwise)? Steam. No. of Articles disinfected? 12 beds and other articles from infected rooms. Where is Apparatus situated? Warrington and Newton Fever Hospitals.

If Apparatus at Hospital is available, is it used for the disinfection of Clothing, Bedding, &c., of Patients *not* removed to the Hospital? Yes.

Are any Diseases notifiable other than those which are compulsorily notifiable (for instance, Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea, Chicken Pox, &c.)? No.

What Diseases have been specially prevalent? Measles and Whooping Cough. Period? Jan., Feb., March, May, June, Oct., and Nov.

No. of times School Closure adopted for Whooping Cough? 1. Measles? 4 and 2 Infant Departments.

No. of Special Reports made under Art. XIX. (15 and 16) Sanitary Officers' Order, 1910? None.

Bacteriological Examinations. No. of Specimens examined: Blood, none; Throat Swabs, 2; Sputum, 6; Swabs for Ophthalmia Neonatorum, none; Milk, none; Others, none.

Diphtheria Anti-Toxin Order, 1910. Is a supply of Anti-toxin kept *within* the district? Yes. If so, where? At Office and 3 Surgeries.

Amount used during 1920? About one dozen.

“THE HOUSING ACTS, 1890 TO 1919.”

Has your Authority determined the procedure to be adopted for the inspection of your District as required by Article I. of the Regulations of 2nd Sept. 1910? Yes.

Has your Authority prepared, as required by Article I. (3) a list of dwelling-houses, the “early inspection of which is, in the opinion of the M.O.H., desirable? Yes.

Has your Authority designated an officer to undertake the special inspection of houses and to keep the records stipulated by Articles (II.) and (III.)? Yes.

What officer has been so designated? Inspector.

Have the necessary books, forms, &c., for keeping the required records been obtained? Yes.

Are these kept up-to date? Yes.

Action taken in 1920 under the Housing Acts :—

No. of Dwelling-houses specially inspected during 1920 under section 17 of the Act of 1609, *i.e.*, with a view to ascertaining whether any dwelling-houses are unfit for human habitation? 13.

Have the particulars of these inspections, as specified in Article II. (1) to (8), and Article III. (1) to (8), of the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, been fully recorded? Yes.

Dwelling-houses inspected which are considered unfit for human habitation? 15.

Representations to Authority with a view to making Closing Orders? One.

Closing Orders made? One.

Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied without making Closing Orders? 9.

Dwelling-houses put into a fit state of habitation after making Closing Orders? None.

Dwelling-houses demolished? None.

General Character of defects found to exist? General Dilapidation.

Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected for purposes of the Housing Acts, other than those inspected under above. (*Not* including inspections *re* Nuisances &c.? 145.

If your Authority has a Housing Scheme, state what stage had been reached on December 31st, 1920, giving information under the following headings :—

No. of Schemes Submitted. 7. No. of Lay-outs. Submitted, None Approved, None.

No. of Houses built during 1920 by private enterprise? 8 (1 a Bungalow of wood).

Source of Water Supply? 1. Warrington & Liverpool Corporations 2. Well supplies.

What is its condition? 1. Good. 2. Well supplies good in some parts, fair in others.

Possibilities of contamination? 1. None. 2. Surface and Sewage.

Any insufficiency, and where? 1. None. 2. Rixton and other parts of the area supplied by wells.

Nature of extensions (if any) during the year? None.

Are Scavenging and Removal of House Refuse carried out satisfactory for whole district? In 3 Townships by Contractors. Yes.

How performed (state whether by Sanitary Authority, Contract or Occupiers of Houses)? By Contractors for Sanitary Authority. By Owners and Occupiers in other parts of the District.

If Privy Middens exist, are they emptied by day or night? Day.

How is the Refuse disposed of? Agricultural Land.

Has a Destructor been provided? No.

Sewage Disposal Works. Method of Treatment? Burtonwood. Precipitation.

What is the character of the Drainage System? Any developments during year? Socket Pipes.

Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system? Poulton with Fearnhead.

Action taken—Drain Testing, Flushing, &c.? Drains tested by Inspector.

Action taken with regard to the Pollution of Streams? All polluted ditches are kept by the Council's workmen.

Canal Boats : Number Inspected? 8. Number of Infringements of Acts? 2.

What is the condition of the Bakehouses? Good. No.? 1.

What is the condition of Slaughter-houses? Good. No.? 3. No. Registered? Nil. No, Licensed? Nil. Has a Public Abattoir been provided? No.

What is the condition of Lodging-houses? None.

What is the Sanitary condition of the Schools? On the whole, good.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops—Are they periodically inspected? Yes. What is their condition? Fairly good.

Have regulations been made under the Order of the L G.B.? Yes. Are they enforced? Yes.

Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow? (a) Where cows are habitually grazed (b) Where cows are *not* habitually grazed? No regulation in force.

Cowkeepers. Total No. of Cowkeepers? 46. No. on Register? 46. No. of Inspections during the year? 162.

Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers)? 8. No. on Register? 8.

Any arrangement for Veterinary inspection of dairy cows? No.

Action taken (if any) as to tuberculous milk? None this year.

Inspection of Food—Amount condemned or surrendered as unfit for human consumption—(a) Tuberculous carcasses destroyed by arrangement with owners. (b) Diseases unsound, or unwholesome meat (*other than above*)? Nil. (c) Other foodstuffs? Nil. Legal proceedings and result? Nil.

Notices served—Nuisances. No. of Notices served? Informal 68 Statutory 35. No. of Nuisances abated? 413. Legal Proceedings taken? Nil.

Closets and Ashpits. Privy Middens :—No. of Middens? 615. No. of Closets attached to these Middens? 615. No. of Pail Closets? 1746. No. of Dry Ashpits (*excluding Middens*)? 406. No. of Fresh Water Closets? 470. No. of Portable Receptacles for refuse? 873. No. of Waste Water Closets? 13.

No. of Privy Closets converted during 1920? To Fresh W.C.'s Nil. To Waste W.C.'s Nil. To Pails, &c. 6.

No. of Pail Closets converted to—Fresh W.C.'s 11. Waste W.C.'s Nil.

No. of Waste W.C.'s converted to Fresh W.C.'s Nil

Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion? No.

What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for *new* property? W.C.'s (Fresh water).

Smoke—No. of Observations? No action taken. What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour? 10 minutes.

Has the Authority adopted—"The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890"? Yes.

"The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1910"? No. "The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907"? Sections, 15, 16, 17, 23 and 33.

Has a Health Visitor been appointed by the Local Council? State whether whole or part time? No. Carried out by Inspector.

Has any scheme been prepared in regard to the Supply of Food and Milk for Expectant and Nursing Mothers, and of Milk for Infants? No.

Is there a District Nursing Association in the District? No.

Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1920. Improvements in Burtonwood Brewery Sewage Scheme.

Chief Sanitary requirements of District. Drainage at Poulton-with-Fearnhead. Water at Rixton.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1920 for the

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WARRINGTON

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES & HOMEWORK.

1—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	54	None.	None .
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	70	None.	None.
Workplaces (other than outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report) ...	8	1	None.
Total	132	1	None.

2—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts.</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	None.	None.
Sanitary Accommodation unsuitable or defective	1	1		
Total	2	2	None.	None.

3—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK.	Lists received from Employers.	Outwork in unwholesome premises. Sec. 108	Outwork in infected premises, Sec. 109, 110
Wearing apparel : Making ..	None.	None.	None.
File making			
Total	None.	None.	None.

4—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

WORKSHOPS ON THE REGISTER AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

Toolmakers	12
Hamper making	4
Blacksmiths	5
Wheelwrights	1
Sheetmetal Works	1
Bituminous Solutions	1
File making	3

Total number of Workshops on Register ... 27

5—OTHER MATTERS.

Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Act (s. 5, 1931)	Notified by H.M. Inspector ... 1 Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector 1
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*To the Chairman and Members of the Warrington
Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have again the pleasure of presenting to you my Annual Report of Nuisances and other matters dealt with during the year 1920.

There is still great difficulty in getting Sanitary matters and repairs to property carried out owing to the high cost of materials. With further reference to the Night Soil removal in the Township of Burtonwood, the work has proceeded fairly satisfactory, the work being carried out by a small Farmer by arrangement with the property owners. A great improvement in Sanitary matters has taken place in the Orford district, the Council having contracted for the Night Soil removal. This arrangement has been greatly appreciated by the inhabitants. A large number of inspections have been made, which include Dwelling-houses, Farms, Cowsheds, Slaughter-houses, Factories, Workshops, etc.

The number of informal notices served for abatement of nuisances were 98, statutory 35, nuisances abated 413.

The approximate number of privy middens are 615, closets attached 615, pail closets 1746, (ashpits excluding middens) 406, fresh water closets 470, portable receptacles for refuse? Half No. of pail closets waste water closets 13. Privies converted to fresh W.C.'s, none, to waste W.C.'s, none, to pail closets 6, pail closets converted to fresh W.C.'s, 11, waste W.C.'s, none.

Houses disinfected 33, bedding removed to Warrington for disinfection 12.

Samples of water submitted for Analysis 4. Good and fit for domestic use 1. Unfit for domestic use 3. Informal samples of new milk submitted for Analysis 7. Adulterated 2. Licences granted under the Petroleum Acts, 13.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILK SHOPS ORDER.

The number of Cow-keepers on the Register are 46. Dairywomen 8. These have been regularly inspected, and on the whole are kept fairly clean. There is still room for improvement with regard to the grooming of the cows.

During my inspections I had cause to suspect that three cows were suffering from tuberculosis. After interviewing the owners it was arranged to have them slaughtered, and an examination of the carcasses proved that they were suffering from tuberculosis.

HOUSING INSPECTION REGULATIONS.

Number of houses inspected in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs and defects to be remedied 146.

Dwelling houses rendered fit and defects remedied 9 Closing Orders made 1.

The defects found consist of old and decayed walls, caused through absence of damp course, defective floors, ceilings, plaster on walls, fire bars, fire grates under wash-boilers, window frames and roofs.

There is great difficulty in getting the owners to do the necessary repairs, owing to the high cost of material and wages, but the work is now being carried out fairly satisfactory.

CANAL BOATS ACT.

The number of boats plying on the Sankey Canal have increased very little during the past year, most of the Wharves being grown over with weeds.

A few boats have been carrying lead to Sankey Bridges, and sugar to Earlestown, but most of them are registered under the Merchant Shipping Act. This Council is not a Registration Authority, and 8 boats have been inspected on my rounds through the District.

They were registered for 31 persons, and the numbers found totalled :-
Males 16. Certificates not produced 3. Cabins not known when painted 4.
Cabins dirty 1. No water vessel on board 1.

In other respects the boats are quite in order, and it was not found necessary to take any legal proceedings.

FRANK W. KERFOOT,

INSPECTOR.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Statistics.

Year ended 31st December, 1920.

1.—General.

(1)	Estimated population	11603
(2)	General death-rate	12'2
(3)	Death-rate from tuberculosis... ..	0'68
(4)	Infantile mortality	79
(5)	Number of dwelling-houses of all classes ..	2603
(6)	Number of working-class dwelling-houses	1963
(7)	Number of new dwelling-houses erected	8

2.—Unfit Dwelling-houses.

I.—INSPECTION.

(1)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	146
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	146
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	13
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	None scheduled at present.

II.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	None.
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III.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c, Act, 1919.

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	None.
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—	
	(a) by owners	None.
	(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	None.
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	None.

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	145
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—	
	(a) by owners	9
	(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	None.

C. Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c, Act, 1909.

(1)	Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1

(3)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	None.
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	None.
(5)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	None.

3.—Unhealthy Areas.

Areas represented to the Local Authority with a view to Improvement Schemes under (a) Part I., or (b) Part II, of the Act of 1890 :—

NONE.

4. Number of houses not complying with the building bye-laws erected with consent of Local Authority under section 25 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.

NONE.

The number of dwelling-houses and of working-class houses in the Appendices has been recently furnished by the Assistant Overseer of each Parish.

	Dwelling-houses.	Working-class houses.
Burtonwood	445	369
Rixton-with-Glazebrook	240	158
Woolston-with-Martinscroft	109	79
Cuerdley	23	15
Houghton, Middleton and Arbury	48	29
Penketh	406	336
Poulton-with-Fearnhead	372	230
Great Sankey	371	256
Southworth-with-Croft	215	152
Winwick-with-Hulme	374	339
	<hr/> 2603	<hr/> 1963

There is no excess of houses in any one of the Parishes, and the estimated shortage was in May, 1920, as follows :

Burtonwood	40	Poulton-with-Fearnhead	5
Sankey	5	Rixton-with-Glazebrook	18
Houghton	3	Croft	5
Penketh	25	Woolston	11

Winwick was still subjudice.

There have been completed six houses of Ferro-concrete in Penketh, one of Brick in Rixton, and one, a wooden Bungalow, in Middleton. All have been built by private persons.

Although it was understood that in Rixton-with-Martinscroft 5 acres of land had been acquired by an industrial firm for the purpose of building houses to accommodate their workmen, nothing more has been done.

The position of the housing scheme at the end of the year was as follows :—Sites had been definitely decided upon in Burtonwood and Penketh for 20 and 16 houses respectively. The lay-out of the Penketh site had been approved by the Ministry of Health and negotiations were in progress for the purchase.

No definite information can be given as to any important changes in the population, but in the future an increase is anticipated owing to new works being built either in or bordering on this area.

The extent of overcrowding is difficult to estimate, but last year, as far as could be ascertained, there were about 40 definite cases.

The causes are chiefly—1. The decrease in the number of houses built each year. Before the War (1914) the average number of working-class houses built each year was 51. From January, 1915, to December, 1918, only 24 were built, an average of 8 per annum, and since December, 1918, 8 have been erected. 2. Increase of the numbers of respective

families and the impossibility of moving into houses with more accommodation, and (3) The number of newly-married people who have either to live with relatives or find apartments.

In oue parish (Penketh) some 14 written and numerous verbal applications have been made from persons living in apartments. The majority of the applications are from newly-married people who have some connection with the Parish.

Owing to the shortage of suitable houses no definite measures have been taken to reduce overcrowding. In a certain number of cases attempts, without success, have been made by individual families to find more suitable accommodation.

The general standard of housing in the district is good so far as relates to the more modern houses, but the older ones are mostly without damp-proof courses and are showing more signs of general dilapidation. The defects in the more modern houses are chiefly due to the difficulty during the War of remedying defects as soon as discovered. The chief defects are walls requiring pointing, spouting requiring renewal, and other similar ones.

Latterly much more progress has been made in remedying this class of defects, and it would appear that in the future the owners will comply with our requests much more readily.

In the case of the older property it is not quite so probable until the cost of carrying out extensive repairs is reduced. In fact, in some of the worse cases the owners have stated their unwillingness to do anything, and as soon as conditions are favourable further action will have to be taken.

There are no unhealthy areas and there are no houses let in lodgings in the district.

Other reports relating to housing will be found on page 18.

Staff engaged on Housing work : Medical Officer of Health, Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

No definite duties are set out, but the two first-named deal with the sanitary and general condition of existing houses and the Surveyor with the details of the Housing schemes.

